

### Prayer for Sincere Repentance.

Merciful and Gracious God, Thou art slow to anger and plenteous in mercy! Thou callest us daily through the gracious preaching of Thy word to devout conversion, and in Thy name causest repentance and remission of sins to be preached. And Thou showest Thy forbearance with us through Thy long suffering and inexpressible mercy, and dost not suddenly come upon sinners in the midst of their evil deeds with Thy righteous wrath and judgment to punish them, but giveth place and time for repentance, so that no one can justly charge or accuse Thee. For Thou art not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and have everlasting life. O dear God, Thou knowest the sluggishness of our flesh and the hardness of our hearts, that we through inherited sin are thus far deranged and so deeply sunk in sin, that of our own accord we can not rise or return. Therefore, for the sake of the wounds of Jesus Christ, my

Lord, I beseech Thee, convert Thou me, and I am converted. For Thou art my God, and where I am converted I will truly repent. Save Thou me, O Lord, and I am saved. Help me, and I am helped. Behold, I am like an erring and lost sheep. Seek Thou Thy servant, that I forget not Thy commandments. Circumcise the foreskin of my heart. Purge me, and I shall be clean. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. O dear God, look upon me, as Thou didst look upon Mary Magdalene, the repentant sinner, as she lay at Thy feet and wept over her transgressions; and the publican in the temple, as he smote his breast and besought Thy grace. Vouchsafe unto me sincere sorrow and contrition over my sin, and a true faith with firm confidence in Thy grace, and also worthy fruits of repentance. Let me discern the

day of Thy visitation, and not despise the riches of Thy mercy, so that I may not neglect the accepted time, and the day of Thy salvation, and not fail to turn to Thee, my Lord and God. May I not postpone my repentance from one day to another, nor yet to the last hour, but rather turn to Thee this day and repent. Amen.

---

#### Prayer for the Forgiveness of Sins.

Merciful Father, Eternal God, my sins are grievous, many and great my transgressions, and mine iniquities are innumerable, for the imaginations of my heart are evil from my youth. O Lord, who can understand his errors? Behold, I acknowledge my transgressions: my sin is ever before me. Against Thee only have I sinned, and done evil in Thy sight: that Thou mightest be justified when Thou speakest, and be clear when Thou judgest. I beseech Thine infinite mercy, enter not into judgment with Thy servant: for in Thy sight shall no

living man be justified. If Thou, Lord, shouldest mark iniquities, O Lord, who shall stand? Behold, if Thou contendest with man, he can not answer Thee one of a thousand, for all our righteousness before Thee is as the filthy rag. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Thy loving kindness: according to the multitude of Thy tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin, for Thy name's sake. Lord, have mercy upon me, save my soul, for, alas! I have sinned against Thee. Remember, O Lord, Thy tender mercies and Thy loving kindnesses; for they have been ever as of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to Thy mercy remember Thou me for Thy goodness' sake, O Lord. Remember that we are flesh, as the wind which bloweth and doth not return, and cease in Thy anger and wrath against us. O merciful God, I acknowledge that my virtues and my deeds can

never blot out my sins, nor yet merit Thy grace. Only the innocent suffering and death of Jesus Christ, the Lamb without spot or blemish, is the true offering for our iniquities, and His blood, shed for the remission of our sins, is the cleansing and purification of our souls. In such confidence and hope I supplicate Thee: forgive Thou the transgressions of Thy people. Cover our sins. Impute not our iniquities, for Thou art merciful. Cleanse Thou me from secret fault. Let my sorrowing soul and my vexed bones again rejoice, for with Thee there is mercy and plenteous redemption. O Lord, hear the voice of my supplication, and despise not the groanings of my heart, for Christ's sake. Amen.

---

#### Prayer for True Faith.

Lord, Almighty God, Thou Father of lights, with whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, from whom ev-

ery good and perfect gift cometh, I pray Thee, since all men have not faith: implant and maintain in my heart through the workings of Thy Holy Spirit the true knowledge of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and increase it from day to day, so that I, too, may be filled with the knowledge of Thy will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding, that I may walk worthy of Thee unto all pleasing, being faithful in every good work, and increase in such knowledge according to Thy glorious power in all patience and long suffering with joy. Grant unto me, according to the riches of Thy glory, that I may be strengthened with might by Thy Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in my heart by faith. O dear God, since no man knoweth the Son but Thou, O Father, and no man knoweth Thee, the Father, but only the same Thy Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal Thee, I pray Thee, draw Thou me unto Thee. Grant me the knowledge of salvation, which is the forgiveness of sins.

Strengthen my weak faith, which is small as the mustard seed, so that it may increase, and I be rooted and grounded in Thee, and may stand steadfast and unmoveable. Gracious God, Thou hast kindled the spark of faith in my heart and has begun this good work in me, I cry to Thee, perfect it until the end, that we may ever increase in knowledge and understanding, and be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God. Preserve what Thou hast begun, that we might war a good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience, and not waver or succumb in trial and temptation and make shipwreck concerning faith. Therefore protect me, my God, that I am not lead astray among the errors, schisms, and heresies of the world. Preserve me from superstitions and all false doctrine, that I may neither err nor doubt in any article of faith. And vouchsafe unto me Thy grace, that my faith

be not lifeless, inactive, or without good fruits, but active and energetic, serving in love, so that I, too, may carry off the end of faith, which is the soul's salvation. Amen.

---

### Prayer Before Confession.

Lord Jesus Christ, Thou my Redeemer, Thou hast given unto Thy dear Church on earth and its faithful servants the sacred office of the keys, and invested it with the promise, that whatsoever by virtue of the same they shall loose or bind on earth shall also be loosed or bound in heaven: I thank Thee, and eternally praise and glorify Thee, for such Thy gracious gift. And, since I a poor and bound sinner need this blessed key which looseth, so that I may not be kept under the bonds of the infernal jailer, I beseech Thine infinite mercy, that I may receive its comfort through my spiritual father, my pastor, and for the sake of Thy holy, precious blood and Thy innocent offering and death be loosed from all my

sins. Grant me Thy Holy Spirit, so that I may grasp this holy absolution in heartfelt contrition and undoubting trust, firm resolve, brotherly love and gratitude, and inherit the eternal life. Amen.

---

### Thanksgiving After Absolution.

O Blessed, Merciful, and Gracious God! I thank and praise Thee from all my heart, that through Thy servant Thou hast again forgiven me, a poor sinner, all my sins, again received me in grace, and promised me eternal life. I earnestly pray Thee, vouchsafe unto me Thy Holy Spirit, and create in me a pure heart, so that I may joyously trust that all my sins are forgiven me through Jesus Christ. As an earnest and surety of this blessed fact, I will now eat and drink the true body and blood of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine, to my soul's salvation. Grant me also, O faithful God, that henceforth

I may earnestly avoid all sin and better my life. This Thou wouldest graciously grant me for Thy name's sake. Amen.

---

### A Morning Prayer for Communion Day.

Arise, my soul, this is the day which the Lord hath made. We will rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks unto the gracious and merciful God for His blessings and say:

Almighty and Merciful God and Father, I thank Thee from all my heart for the protection of this night, for the refreshing rest, and for the joyous morning, which Thou hast granted unto me. I praise Thee with all my soul for Thy wonderful mercy which blesses me with the forgiveness of my sins. Praised be Thy grace, which is new each morn, and which on this day also bids me to Thy house, and calls and invites me to Thy altar.

O Lord, since I, too, would come to Thy

Supper with the throngs which celebrate, do Thou Thyself make me ready. As Thou wouldest find a pure residence in me, do Thou cleanse and consecrate my body and soul. Guide me with Thine eye, and lead me with Thy hand to the riches of Thy mercy. Comfort me with Thy countenance, and do not forsake me. As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God.

And, that my sacred resolve may not be hampered, I commend to Thee my body and soul, reason, senses, and thoughts, whatever I do or leave undone, my coming in and going out, my walking, standing, sitting, and resting, my imaginations and aspirations, my faith and confession, and whatever internally or externally I may be or do. O God, preserve in me a devout spirit, and hinder whatever might disturb or hamper me. Receive me into the especial care of Thy grace, and increase in me the work that is now begun. Perfect and complete it according to Thy power

and grace to Thy glory and my salvation. Keep me from evil thoughts, from idle imaginations, from all uncleanness, so that in Thy fear I may begin a consecrated life and continue therein. May the light of my faith shine before men. May I give offense to none, but rather in Christian conduct edify the brethren and direct them to all virtue.

Holy Jesus, do Thou unite with my body and soul on this day. Nourish me with Thy flesh and refresh me with Thy blood, so that my weak faith be strengthened, and receive the assurance of Thy grace, the remission of my sin, and eternal salvation. Invest me with the pure silk of Thy righteousness. Clothe me in the true wedding garment, that I may appear at Thy heavenly board a worthy guest.

Now, Lord God and Father, be my help and my protection! Lord Jesus Christ be my bread, my light, and life! And Thou, O Holy Ghost, illumine and preserve me in the true sanctification, so that in that

estate, into which I again am permitted to enter, I may remain for the course of my life. Let me be enveloped in Thee. Without Thee there is only grief. O dear Savior, let me ever be with Thee. Amen.

---

### Prayer Before Holy Communion.

Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal Son of God, I am not worthy to open my lips and receive the most precious sacrament of Thy body and blood. For I am a sin-stained man, but Thou art the Lord whom the heavens can not encompass. How then can a human being who is but dust and ashes be worthy to receive Thy most holy body and precious blood! I well know and acknowledge that my sins are many and that for that reason I am an unworthy guest at Thy table. But I also sincerely believe and confess it with my lips that by Thy grace Thou canst render me worthy. For Thou art omnipotent and gracious. Thou only canst cleanse and make holy whatever

took rise in unclean seed. Thou canst transform sinners into true and holy men, when by Thy grace Thou forgivest sin and renewest us with Thy Holy Spirit. Therefore I pray Thee, by Thy power and love grant me grace, that I may worthily approach Thy altar, and not become guilty of Thy body and blood by unworthy eating and drinking, so that I may not receive death in place of life. Grant me grace, that I may know and test myself as a poor sinner, my heart filled with sorrow over mine iniquity, and may properly discern Thy tender and noble body, and Thy holy, precious blood. May my reason, senses, and intellect be ever submissive to Thy word, and may I be earnestly resolved to better and improve my life with Thy help, so that in this precious sacrament, I may not only with my mouth receive Thy body and blood, but also in true faith accept Thee, my Savior and Redeemer, enthrone Thee in my heart, and find in Thee my life and blessedness. For Thou art the living

bread which cometh down from heaven and bringeth life to men. Whoever cometh to Thee shall nevermore hunger, and he that believeth on Thee shall nevermore thirst. Whoever eateth Thy flesh and drinketh Thy blood dwelleth in Thee and Thou in him, and shall never die. O beloved Lord, my spirit and my mind yearn for Thee. As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God? Fill me with Thy grace. Amen.

---

#### **A Sigh When About to Receive the Sacred Body of Christ.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Thy holy body strengthen and preserve me in the true faith unto eternal life. Amen.

#### **A Sigh When About to Receive the Sacred Blood of Christ.**

Lord Jesus Christ, Thy holy blood strengthen and preserve me in the true faith unto eternal life. Amen.

---

#### **Prayer After the Holy Supper.**

Lord Jesus Christ, with all my heart I thank and glorify Thee, that Thou hast again cleansed me, a poor sinner, from all my sin, and as an earnest of such cleansing and forgiveness of my sin, hast nourished me with Thy body and blood, and like an unclean child, after such purification, hast received me into the fatherly arms of Thy grace and mercy, and put me pure, reproachless, and without blemish before Thy Father.

I earnestly pray Thee with all my power, in addition to such blessing, grant me Thy grace through the workings of Thy Holy Ghost, so that I may sufficiently understand



such blessing and grace, gratefully accept it, and glorify and praise Thee with all my heart. Grant me strength from above by Thy Holy Spirit, that I may heartily forgive my neighbor wherever he hath sinned against me, even as Thou hast fully and richly forgiven me my great and manifold transgressions, yes, entirely blotted them out and wilt never remember them. Help me to love my neighbor and gladly show him every good, as Thou hast done unto me, and hast shown me more than I can ever sufficiently thank Thee for. Praise and glory be to Thee, O faithful God, together with the Father and the Holy Ghost, world without end. Amen.

---

#### Prayer for a Pious Life.

O my dear Lord Jesus, illumine me to-day and evermore, that I may shape the course of my Christian life and direct it toward the eternal Jerusalem, my eternal home. And as Thou yearnest for me, may

I also have all my delight and thirst in Thee, seek Thee early, yearn for Thee, and make of Thee, the bread of life, the companion of all my ways. Keep me, O unchangeable, everlasting God, from the inconstancy of the children of this world, that I may not fall into hypocrisy as they do, but today and always, in all my calling, prove myself constant in godliness, so that my life may decrease in vice and increase in virtue. May I always faithfully serve Thee, my Lord, disdain the worldly, be exalted in Thee, experience Thy grace and protection, and eternally thank Thee, for Christ's sake. Amen.

---

#### Prayer for Faithful Teachers and Preachers.

The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest.

Merciful God, who hast commanded us through Thy only begotten Son to pray Thee for laborers in Thy harvest: I earnestly beseech Thee, grant us, Thy sheep, pastors according to Thy heart, to feed us with doctrine and wisdom. Put learned bishops, Christian pastors, pious teachers over Thy congregation, faithfully to show the true way to eternal life. Fill them plenteously with Thy Holy Spirit, so that they may fruitfully proclaim the holy and precious word of the gospel, and sincerely perfect Thy work. Grant them a courageous heart, that without fear or favor they may lift up their voices and put the adversaries to silence. Open the door for their word, that they may be blessed and go from strength to strength. May they also be shining examples for the flocks entrusted to their care. Grant me and all listeners a grateful heart, that we may communicate in all good things unto them that teach us the word, rejoice in them, forsake them not, so that we may be blessed of Thee accord-

(118)

ing to Thy promise in all the works of our hands. Preserve us from hirelings, time-servers, unfaithful laborers, and hypocrites, who falsely deceive the hearts of the righteous, whom Thou hast never grieved, and fortify the hands of the wicked, that they will not turn from their evil ways. Let us never be robbed of our faithful preachers for the sake of our ingratitude, but rather look upon the glory of Thy holy name, yea, behold the Kingdom of Thine Anointed, that it may prevail among us to the end of the world. Amen.

---

### **Prayer for the Kingdom of God.**

(Meeting of the Congregation)

Gracious and Blessed God, who hast taught and commanded us above all things and first to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness: I pray Thee, grant us grace, that Thy holy word may be preached in all the world in all its truth and purity, and we submit our reason to the obedience

(119)

of faith, and live holy lives according to it as behooves the children of God to Thy pleasing, so that Thy kingdom may come to us, and increase, and many of them, who do not yet believe in the word, be won through a Christian conduct. Help us, dear God, who are delivered from the power of darkness and are translated into the kingdom of Thy dear Son Jesus Christ, in whom we have redemption through His blood, even the forgiveness of sin, that we may remain in His kingdom, faithfully continue in the wholesome doctrine, and live worthily as children of light in all piety and godliness. And since the kingdom of God cometh not with outward shew, neither consists of mere words, but is power and spirit: grant us grace, that we may be born again from above through Thy saving word and Thy Holy Spirit, co-heirs of life, so that with our hearts we may dwell above where Christ sitteth, and constantly seek the inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, that fadeth not away. Enable us to be poor

in the spirit and humble, and such who sorrow over their sins. Let us be anhung-ered and athirst, and heartily yearn after righteousness. May we ever be meek, and suffer and overcome whatsoever of persecution and tribulation may assail us, and revilings and undeserved malignings with patience and longsuffering. Keep us from all offenses, whereby Thy holy name is blasphemed and outraged, Thy kingdom hindered and weakened. Grant us grace to practice our faith in works of love and mercy, feeding, clothing, harboring, visiting, comforting the poor and distressed of this world, so that when that great day dawns we may hear the blessed and joyous voice of Thy dear Son: Come ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Amen.

### Prayer for Missions.

I pray Thee, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son, our Lord, have mercy upon the unbelievers, whoever and wherever they are, who still walk in darkness, and do not yet possess the light of Thy gospel. They are stricken with blindness by the evil one. Their foolish heart is darkened. They are alienated from the life that is of Thee, through their native ignorance, carried away to the dumb idols, even as they are led, and in their blindness curse and blaspheme Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, the mercy seat. For that reason, O faithful God, take away the veil, which is upon the heart of the Jews, who stumble at the stone of stumbling and the rock of offense. Illumine their eyes that they may know the true Messiah, the Savior of the world. Gather the heathen and all unbelievers, who look upon Thy word as foolishness, into the true fold and the true assembly of Christians, the congregation of saints, so that with us and all

the faithful they may honor, glorify, and worship Thee, the Father in the Son, and the Son with the Father and the Holy Ghost, ever one God and Lord. Open the understanding of all men, who do not put their salvation and their confidence solely and alone on the true fundament and cornerstone, even Jesus Christ, so that they know Him, whom Thou hast sent, and in the true faith and a sincere trust of their hearts may acknowledge and accept Him as their Savior and Redeemer, who through His obedience and fulfillment of the law, and through His bitter death, hath merited an eternal salvation. We pray Thee also, to return to the truth of Thy word all of them who have defected from the Christian faith, or err in sundry other things and are cumbered with false doctrines. Thou God of grace, have mercy upon those, who are not of the true faith, who dwell in the shadow of death, and in the darkness of their minds walk on uneven paths. Seek the lost, lead aright the erring, illumine the

blinded and infatuated, open the ears of the deaf, unloose the tongues of the dumb, who do not confess Thee, raise the fallen, bring back the corrupt, assemble the dispersed, lead aright the erring and seduced, for Thy mercy's sake. Amen.

---

### Prayer Against False Doctrines and Sects.

Gracious God! Thou hast warned us, that we should beware of false prophets who come in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves. And since in these latter days, in which we now live, evil times will come, in which Satan clothes himself in the livery of heaven, and false teachers and fraudulent laborers dissemble as though they were the apostles of Christ, who have the form of godliness but deny the power thereof; and since the defection from the pure doctrine, and the man of sin, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called

God shall be made manifest, help us, eternal God, that we may be filled with the love for truth, and avoid the spirit of lies and all falsehoods and errors, abstain and flee from all appearance of evil, so that we may not be moved from the true faith, nor yet beguiled from our reward, but may continue steadfast by Thy word unto the end. May we never be led astray, neither through deceiving powers, signs, and miracles, nor through any temptation to unrighteousness, so that we be not tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the slight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive. Preserve Thy elect in this evil world, O God, that they may not be led into error. Shorten the days in these evil times. Destroy the Antichrist, the wicked child of perdition and temptation, through the spirit of Thy mouth. Put an end to his days through the appearance of Thy dear Son. Preserve us also from unruly spirits and schisms, from the ravenous wolves who

have no mercy for the flocks, from men who speak perverse doctrines and draw the disciples to themselves, from men of corrupt minds who sow offense and bring about separation, from the tares which the enemy scatters, from thieves and murderers of the soul. Let us only hear Thy voice, and follow it from our hearts in true faith and upright obedience, so that your word may be our only rule and norm, according to which we measure all doctrine, flee the evil teaching, and all unrighteousness. Then will we, too, have boldness and be not brought to naught on that day when Jesus Christ, our Savior, shall appear. Amen.

---

#### Prayer Against the Enemies of Christendom.

O Lord God, why do the wicked rage without cause? and the mighty set themselves and take counsel against Thee and Thy Son, Thine Anointed? O Lord, how numerous are Thine enemies, and great the

number of those who conspire against Thy word to destroy it, and put their own evil idolatry in its place and introduce false doctrines into Thy Church. They invent secret artifices and practices, to destroy the confessors of Thy word. They counsel what is evil, pregnant with calamity. They lie in wait for us like the lion seeking his prey. Thus they waylay our souls. They open wide their jaws, like a gaping sepulchre, to devour us. O Lord God, commit us not to their will, for behold, the wicked mob speaks in its heart, Thou, O Lord, hast forgotten us. Thou hast concealed Thy countenance. Arise, therefore, O Lord. Lift up Thy hand, forget not the distressed. Awaken, O Lord, why sleepest Thou! Awake, and do not quite reject us. Why dost Thou hide Thy face, and forget our misery and distress? Arise, and help us, and deliver us for Thy mercy sake, that the enemy may not injure us, nor the children of Belial harm us. Save us from the hands of aliens, whose teaching is useless,

and their works evil. For they will not be guided to do good. They will not regard Thee, the Lord of hosts, nor yet the works of Thy hands. Thou wilt destroy and not build them. O Lord God Sabbaoth, militate Thou against our assailants. Give victory to our Christian government, and conquer the enemies of Thy name. For victory cometh from heaven, and is not brought about by the great multitude. Thou canst as readily help through the few as through the many. Therefore destroy the arm of the wicked. Make their counsels of no account, that they can not accomplish them, but must be brought to naught with shame. They must return, who hate Thee, and seek to annihilate Thy holy word. They must be as chaff before the wind. Thy holy angel brush them aside, that they may not boast against Thee and say our hand hath done this. Therefore safeguard Thy honor among men, and help us for Thy name's sake, that it may not be desecrated and blasphemed. Amen.

## **Prayers During Times of War**

### Prayer During War.

O Lord God, who art righteous in Thy judgment, and plenteous in mercy, whose faithfulness endureth from generation to generation, who rulest even above the din of war: may all nations learn to know that Thou alone art God, that Jesus Christ is Thy Son, and that all who truly confess Thy name are the people of Thy pasture and the sheep of Thy hand. Thou hast permitted the nations to rise up in war against each other and our own beloved country to become engulfed in its throes. O Lord God, our Father, we know that war is a punishment for sin and that we, too, have justly merited Thy punishment through our sins. Therefore we humbly confess our sins, and supplicate Thy pity and compassion, lay not our iniquities against us, but graciously forgive us our sins and shortcomings for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ. To Thy fatherly goodness and care we commend our people, and especially our soldiers and sailors now in the service



of their country. They are absent from their loved ones, beset by dangers on all sides. Be Thou ever near. Keep them from all evil. O Thou, without whose consent not even a sparrow falleth to the ground and who hast numbered the very hairs of our heads, take them under the shadow of Thy wings. Give them courage and obedience, fortitude and valor in the hour of danger, and compassion and mercy in the flush of victory. Prosper their arms to the establishment of justice, peace, and truth among all peoples. Lead them safely back to their homes and their loved ones, better citizens, better Christians than before. And to Thy holy name be glory, laud, and honor, world without end. Amen.

---

#### **Prayer for the Army and Navy.**

Almighty and Eternal God, Thou King of kings and Lord of lords, who rulest and governest all things in heaven and earth:

we beseech Thine infinite mercy to bless the officers and men of our army and navy. Preserve them against all dangers and temptations which may assail their lives. Help them manfully to battle against and overcome the powers of evil, the world, the devil, and the flesh. May they ever be filled with Thy Holy Spirit from on high, and in courage, manliness, and truthfulness prevail in the hour of danger and when the battle rages. May they ever look to Thee, who art the succorer of those in peril, as to their only helper, and in Thy name fight a holy fight to maintain the country's honor and keep the flag unsullied, that truth and righteousness may prevail. Put to naught all evil designs and devices of their enemies, both spiritual and temporal. Guide Thou and direct them that they may ever fight the good fight of faith and in the end overcome and attain to their soul's salvation, to the glory of Thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

### Prayer on the Eve of Battle.

O Lord God of hosts, Thou the Highest of the high, and the Holiest of the holy, who rulest and shapest all things to the glory of Thy name and the betterment of Thy people: we humbly beseech Thine infinite mercy in this hour of our peril, judge Thou between us and our enemies. Be Thou our sure defense. Stir up Thy might and hasten to our help. Lay not our sins to our charge, but for the sake of Thy dear Son, our only Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, manifest Thy mercy toward us and blot out our iniquities, and sanctify and guide us by Thy truth. We Thy poor servants call upon Thy holy name, and implore Thy grace. Have mercy upon us. Lead us safely through the blood and carnage. Make it appear that Thou art our deliverer. Make us strong with the assurance that it is Thy cause, that we are Thy children, that Thou holdest our destiny in Thy hand. And if it is Thy will that we should lay down our lives—Thy will be done!

Help us then that our last day on this earth may be the first in Thy paradise. Bless our loved ones at home, and comfort them with the hopeful assurances of Thy word. May they and all of us rightfully know and appreciate, whether we live, we live unto the Lord. And whether we die, we die unto the Lord. Therefore whether we live or die we are the Lord's. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

---

### Prayer for the Wounded.

Lord God, our Heavenly Father! We implore Thy eternal compassion for all who are this day wounded, suffering, or dying. Be Thou nigh unto them in their affliction. Comfort them with Thy grace and with the hopeful assurance, that, though kindred and friends be far away, Thou art ever present and hearest even the faintest sight of all who seek Thy succor. If it be Thy pleasure, restore to them their former health and vigor. Help them to

bear their pains without murmuring against Thy grace. Give them patience and strength and faith in Thee. May they rest assured, that Thou wilt never leave nor forsake them. Deliver them from the assaults of the enemies of their souls. O God and Father in heaven, bless them and all of us, and may we ever seek those things that are acceptable to Thy sight. Forgive us our sins, not because of any merit or worthiness in us, but solely because Thou art merciful for Christ's sake. And to Thee, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be glory and honor forever. Amen.

---

### Prayers for the Dying.

(St. Paul's Prayer)

"The time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: not

to me only, but to all of them also that love His appearing." 2 Tim. 4:6-8.

\* \* \*

O Lord, on Thy cross Thou didst cry, "Father, into Thy hands I commend My Spirit!" I, too, commend my spirit into Thy hands now when my end is near. Thou hast redeemed me, O faithful God. Amen.

\* \* \*

Lord Almighty God, Heavenly Father! My time has come to an end, my life is slowly ebbing away. Be Thou with me. O Lord, I suffer much and Thou only canst help me. Be Thou my succor, and shorten and soften my pain. Darkness comes over me and I cry for comfort and strength. Have mercy upon me. Take my soul under Thy protecting wing, that I perish not. Take my sins from me, and blot all my guilt; for Christ's sake, my Savior and my Lord. Amen.

Abide with me! fast falls the eventide.  
The darkness deepens: Lord, with me abide!  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me!

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the  
skies:  
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain  
shadows flee:  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

## Prayers for the Sick and Dying

### Prayer of a Patient.

Lord God, Heavenly Father! Thou art a faithful God, and wilt not suffer any one to be tempted beyond what he is able, but rather with the temptation wilt also make a way to escape, that he may be able to bear it. I supplicate Thee in my great suffering and pain, so shape the cross, that it may not lay too heavily upon me, and strengthen me that I may bear it with patience, and nevermore despair of Thy mercy. O Christ, Thou Son of the living God! Thou hast endured the agony of the cross for me, and hast died for my sins, I beseech Thee with my whole heart, have mercy upon me a poor sinner, and forgive me my transgressions, wherever I have sinned against Thee. Let my faith in no wise diminish. O God Holy Ghost! Thou true comforter in all times of need. Keep me ever in the spirit of patience and supplication. Sanctify me in my reliance upon Thee. Turn not from me in the hour of

my death, and lead me from this vale of sorrow to Thyself in heaven. Amen.

---

### Prayer for a Blessed End.

O Merciful God, Thou hast put a limit to man's life, which no man can set aside. For he has his definite time, the number of his months rests with Thee. Thou hast numbered all our days, which pass away like a stream, as though we flew away. Man is like grass, which soon withereth, like the flower of the field, which passeth away. Teach me, O merciful God, to know and take to heart, that I, too, must pass away and that my life has a limit, and I must go hence. Behold, my days are as a handbreadth before Thee, and my life as nothing in Thy sight. Every man at his best is altogether vanity. Lord, so teach us to number our days, what it is, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Lord, teach me to remember that I must die, and have no continuing city in this pilgrimage. Make

known unto me my short and transient being, that I may often think of my end, so that in this world I may not live unto myself, but live and die unto Thee, so that I may bravely and joyously await the day of my translation and the appearance of Thy dear Son, Jesus Christ, and with a consecrated life and a pious conduct hasten to Him. Bless me, O God, with a blessed departure, and when my hour cometh, that I may joyously die, find a rational end in true knowledge, and that my reason and intellect be not deranged, and I speak no arrogant words or blasphemies against Thee, my Lord, or against my salvation. Preserve me from an evil sudden death and from eternal damnation. Let me not be suddenly overcome by my last hour without warning, but that I may prepare myself with true repentance and sincere faith. And when it comes make me joyous and brave for my temporal death, which only opens the door to the eternal life. May I then, as Thy servant, depart in peace. For

mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel. Grant that my last word may be that which Thy dear Son spoke on the cross, "Father, into Thy hands do I commend My spirit!" And when I can no longer speak, hear Thou my last sigh through Jesus Christ. Amen.

---

#### **Prayer in the Hour of Death.**

Almighty, Everlasting, and Most Merciful Lord and God! Thou art the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I know that Thou art willing and able to fulfill whatsoever Thou hast said. Thou canst not lie. Thy word is truth. Thou hast from the beginning promised me Thy dear Son Jesus Christ. And He is come, and has redeemed me from the devil, death, hell, and sin. And in Thy gracious providence Thou hast for a greater surety established the sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Com-

munion in which His true natural body and blood are given me in, with, and under the bread and wine, thus offering and assuring me of the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and every heavenly gift. And because of this Thy assurance I have made use of these means of grace, and firmly relying upon Thy word have received them. And now I do not doubt but that I am secure from the power of the devil, death, hell, and sin. And if now my hour hath come, and this is Thy divine will, I will gladly and willingly depart hence and be with Thee in peace. Amen.

---

#### **Prayer of the Bystanders for the Sick One.**

Almighty, Merciful God, who keepest our life in death, we pray Thee, turn the eyes of Thy mercy to this sick person, strengthen him in body and soul, and forgive him all his sins through Thy grace.

Take the sacrifice of the innocent death of Jesus Christ, Thy dear Son, as a propitiation for his transgressions, since he, too, is baptized in His name, washed and cleansed with His blood. Save him from the pains and agonies of his body. Shorten his sufferings. Keep him from the accusations of his conscience and all temptations of the enemy, so that in faith he may truly battle and conquer. Grant him a blessed translation to the eternal life. Send Thy holy angels, that they accompany him to the blessed company of all the elect in Christ Jesus, our Lord, Amen.

---

#### Prayer When the Patient Has Died in the Lord.

Jesus Christ, Thou Lord of glory and Prince of life, we glorify and thank Thee now and always, that Thou hast so mercifully helped this now blessed one, and hast taken his soul into Thy holy keeping. And

when the last day cometh Thou wouldest reunite his soul with his body in heavenly radiance, and grant us altogether, when the divinely appointed hour cometh, to follow him in blessedness. Meanwhile grant us a Christian conduct, refresh all sorrowing hearts with heavenly solace. Keep us in Thy eternal grace, for the sake of Thy inexhaustible mercy and goodness. Amen. O Thou most holy, most glorious Trinity. Amen.



**Hymns**

*Du Volk, das du getauft bist.*

Ye baptized people, one and all,  
Who know your God in heaven,  
Who have received a holy call,  
To whom Christ's name is given,  
Do not forget, but ponder well,  
The gifts that now within you dwell,  
The blessings of baptism.

This washing cleanseth us from sin  
And lends a sacred beauty,  
It makes us white and pure within,  
Incites to love and duty,  
From Satan's prison sets us free,  
Enables us the sons to be  
And heirs of God, our Father.

Our sinful nature is renewed,  
The curse of God is lifted;  
By choicest blessings thus endued  
And with the Spirit gifted,  
We unto sin are pledged to die  
And by the pow'r of God on high  
The gates of hell can conquer.

Here we with Jesus Christ are clad,  
His righteousness receiving,  
Which covers what in us is bad,  
Our rescue thus achieving;  
His holy blood, for sinners spilt,

Releases us from sin and guilt,  
And we with God find favor.

O wondrous work, O sacred bath,  
O water thou of blessing,  
The world nowhere thy equal hath,  
Such healing grace possessing.  
Thou hast indeed a pow'r divine,  
According to God's own design,  
And with His word connected.

Thou art no water such as we  
Can draw from well or river.  
In thee the life of God we see,  
Who is of grace the Giver.  
His Holy Spirit in thee dwells,  
Who ev'ry evil lust dispels  
That in our hearts would linger.

O Christians, bear this well in mind,  
And thank the Lord sincerely  
For all the gifts that here you find,  
And that you prize so dearly.  
When nothing else can soothe the soul,  
These gifts lend comfort till the goal  
Of life on earth appeareth.

Use well the things you have in store,  
That are for you intended,  
And, cleansed by Jesus, sin no more  
Until life's course is ended,

When you, in yonder happy land,  
Before God's radiant throne shall stand,  
In heaven's festal garments.

Paul Gerhardt, 1667.  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1918.

---

*Ich bin getauft auf deinen Namen.*

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
I am baptized in Thy name;  
In the seed Thou dost inherit,  
With the people Thou dost claim,  
I am reckoned:  
And for me the Savior came.

Thou receivest me, O Father,  
As a child and heir of Thine;  
Jesus, Thou who diedst, yea, rather  
Ever livest, Thou art mine  
Thou, O Spirit,  
Art my Guide, my Light divine.

I have pledged, and would not falter,  
Truth, obedience, love to Thee;  
I have vows upon Thine alter  
Ever Thine alone to be,  
And for ever  
Sin and all its lusts to flee.

Gracious God, all Thou hast spoken  
In this covenant shall take place;

But if I, alas! have broken  
These my vows, hide not Thy face;  
And from falling  
O restore me by Thy grace.

Lord, to Thee I now surrender  
All I have, and all I am;  
Make my heart more true and tender,  
Glorify in me Thy Name,  
Let obedience  
To Thy will be all my aim.

Help me in this high endeavor,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Bind my heart to Thee for ever,  
Till I join the heavenly host.  
Living, dying,  
Let me make in Thee my boast.

Johann Jacob Rambach, 1734.  
Tr. Chas. William Schaeffer, 1860.

---

*Wir danken dir, o Jesu Christ.*

We thank Thee, Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
For all the help Thou dost afford.  
Thou art the Lamb for sinners slain,  
And this is our eternal gain.  
Thy holy supper doth prepare  
For us a precious fountain where

Salvation flows for ev'ry soul,  
To make the wounded spirit whole.

This covenant Thou, Lord, didst make:  
"Receive my body and partake  
Of mine own blood which flowed for thee,  
That thou a ransomed soul mightst be."

I eat Thy body, which for me  
Was made to die upon the tree,  
I drink Thy blood and thus receive  
Life for my soul, as I believe.

And though I die, yet shall I live;  
Thy body and Thy blood will give  
To me eternal life above,  
The fruit of Thy redeeming love.

Let me be numbered with the blest,  
Who on Thy loving bosom rest,  
Thy worthy guest, to sup with Thee  
And praise Thy name eternally.

Nicolaus Selnecker, 1572.  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1918.

---

*Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir.*

Out of the depths I cry to Thee,  
Lord, hear me, I implore Thee!  
Bend down Thy gracious ear to me,  
Let my prayer come before Thee!

If Thou remember each misdeed,  
If each should have its rightful meed,  
Who may abide Thy presence.

Our pardon is Thy gift; Thy love  
And grace alone avail us.  
Our works could ne'er our guilt remove,  
The strictest life must fail us.  
That none may boast himself of aught,  
But own in fear Thy grace hath wrought  
What in him seemeth righteous.

And thus my hope is in the Lord,  
And not in mine own merit;  
I rest upon His faithful word  
To them of contrite spirit.  
That He is merciful and just,—  
Here is my comfort and my trust,  
His help I wait with patience.

And though it tarry till the night,  
And round till morning waken,  
My heart shall ne'er mistrust Thy might,  
Nor count itself forsaken.  
Do thus, O ye of Israel's seed,  
Ye of the Spirit born indeed,  
Wait for your God's appearing.

Though great our sins and sore our woes,  
His grace much more aboundeth;  
His helping love no limit knows,

Our utmost need it soundeth.  
Our kind and faithful Shepherd, He,  
Who shall at last set Israel free  
From all their sin and sorrow.

Martin Luther, 1524.  
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1862.

---

*Eines wuenssch ich mir vor allem andern.*

One thing I above all others cherish,  
For one thing I long and pray.  
Though in sorrow's vale fond hopes may perish,  
This will prove my staff and stay:  
To behold the Man who, deeply sighing  
And upon earth's bosom prostrate lying,  
Drank the bitter cup of woe  
Since the Father willed it so.

Ever shall my soul retain the vision  
Of that Lamb, for sinners slain,  
Pale and wounded, held in deep derision,  
Hanging on the wood of pain,  
Wrestling there in thirst and mortal anguish,  
Lest my soul eternally should languish,  
Being mindful, too, of me  
When He died the world to free.

O Lord Jesus, keep me mindful ever  
Of my guilt and of Thy grace.  
Be it Thou all bonds of sin dost sever

And all blots of guilt efface.  
Thou of night the brightest daylight makest,  
And Thy lamb into Thy bosom takest,  
As the Shepherd good and fair,  
Nursing it with tender care.

I am Thine! Wilt Thou reply by saying,  
"Thou forever shalt be mine!"  
Cause Thy precious name, all fears allaying,  
Brightly in my heart to shine!  
Be with Thee all things begun and ended,  
Who from earth to heaven hast ascended.  
Yea, this shall, till life is spent,  
Be our law and testament.

Albert Knapp, 1829 (1823).  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1918.

---

*Meine Seel, ermuntre dich.*

Come, my soul, again inquire  
If the love of Christ constrain thee.  
To His cross again retire;  
See Him give Himself to gain thee.  
Search His faithfulness and try Him,  
Glad in Him and gladdened by Him.

See Him there, God's only Son  
On the tree for thee suspended,  
Crowned with thorns, by grief undone,  
Crimson stains with crimson blended,

(158)

Pierced for thee, transfixed, forsaken:  
Deathless love by death o'ertaken.

Thou, yea thou hadst known the rod,  
Endless pain thy sole possession;  
Thou hadst been cast off by God  
For thy multiplied transgression;  
But the Lord thy cause defended;  
By His grace thou art befriended.

When in mighty woe He died  
Vengeance ceased and wrath abated;  
Sinai was satisfied;  
All things old were new-created;  
Sin and death and hell were thwarted;  
Life and health and heaven imparted.

Jesus, grace sufficient give  
That this mind be ever in me:—  
Thine I am; to Thee would live;  
Naught from Thee shall ever win me.  
Thou wilt not forsake nor leave me;  
Let me, Lord, in love receive Thee.

Johann Caspar Schade, 1692.  
Tr. A. Ramsey.

---

*So nimm denn meine Haende.*

Take, then, my hands, O Father,  
And lead Thou me  
Until my journey endeth,  
Eternally.

(159)

Alone I will not wander  
One single day.  
Be Thou my true Companion  
And with me stay.

O cover with Thy mercy  
My poor, weak heart!  
Let ev'ry thought rebellious  
From me depart.  
Permit Thy child to linger  
Here at Thy feet  
And blindly trust Thy goodness  
With faith complete.

Though naught of Thy great power  
May move my soul,  
With Thee through night and darkness  
I reach the goal.  
Take, then, my hands, O Father,  
And lead Thou me  
Until my journey endeth,  
Eternally.

Julie von Haussmann.  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1916.

---

*Jesu, geh voran.*

Jesus, still lead on,  
Till our rest be won;  
And although the way be cheerless,  
We will follow, calm and fearless,

(160)

Guide us by Thy hand  
To our fatherland.

If the way be drear,  
If the foe be near,  
Let not faithless fears o'ertake us,  
Let not faith and hope forsake us;  
For through many a foe  
To our home we go.

When we seek relief  
From a long-felt grief,  
When temptations come alluring,  
Make us patient and enduring;  
Show us that bright shore  
Where we weep no more.

Jesus, still lead on,  
Till our rest be won;  
Heavenly Leader, still direct us,  
Still support, console, protect us,  
Till we safely stand  
In our fatherland.

Nicolaus Ludwig v. Zinzendorf, 1721.  
Tr. Jane Borthwick, 1846. a.

---

*Befiehl du deine Wege.*

Commit thy ways and faring  
With all that grieves thy soul,  
To His e'er faithful caring

(161)

Who, doth the heavens control;  
Who giving course and highway  
To clouds and winds and breeze,  
Will find for thee a byway  
Where thou canst fare at ease.

But thou must trust Him wholly  
To make thy welfare sure;  
And look to His work solely  
To have thy works endure.  
God lets none snatch a blessing  
By fretful grief and care  
Nor one's own self-distressing;  
It must be got by prayer.

Thy faithfulness unfailing,  
O Father, and Thy grace  
Mark good or ill prevailing  
Amongst this mortal race;  
Then what Thou wilt decreeing  
And pressing on with ease,  
Thou bring'st to pass and being  
Whate'er Thy counsels please.

All ways do Thine possessing,  
Thou lack'st not means nor might.  
Thy deed is purest blessing,  
Thy path serenest light.  
And none Thy work can hinder,  
Nor can Thy labors rest

Whenever Thou wouldst render  
Thy children what is best.

Though devils all endeavor,  
And fain would work defeat,  
Beyond all doubt soever  
The Lord will not retreat.  
Whatever He proposes,  
Whate'er He takes in hand,  
Whene'er His set time closes  
Will come to pass as planned.

Hope on, poor soul, and bravely;  
Hope on, no more perplexed.  
God from those deeps will save thee  
Where thou by griefs art vexed.  
With grace will He secure thee;  
But wait His time as thine,  
And thou wilt see most surely  
The sun of gladness shine.

Up! Up! Away with grieving.  
Bid anxious fret begone,  
Thy heart its sadness leaving,  
Its woes ne'er dwelt upon.  
Though thou, who dost not govern,  
Canst naught at all compel,  
God sits enthroned and sov'reign  
And doeth all things well.  
Let Him, a Ruler knowing,



Arrange for thee, and do.  
Thou'lt see with wonder growing  
How He will bring thee through;  
And how, by means most seemly,  
By counsels wondrous deep,  
He bears Himself supremely  
In works which thou dost weep.

True, He awhile will tarry,  
His comforting delayed,  
And seem Himself to carry  
As minded not to aid;  
May seem to turn Him from thee,  
Nor e'en, though o'er and o'er  
Thy cares and griefs o'ercome thee  
To ask about thee more.

But though thou seem neglected,  
And yet believing be,  
When least by thee expected  
Will He deliver thee.  
Thy heart will He deliver  
From all its burd'ning woe  
Which thou, unharmed however,  
Hast carried hitherto.

And well with thee thereafter,  
Child of the Faithful, found  
Midst praise and thanks and laughter,  
A conqueror, and crowned.

The palms in hand before him,  
Which God Himself bestows,  
With glad songs thou'lt adore Him  
Who turned aside thy woes.

Make end, O Lord, good ending  
To all our woes ere long.  
With strength on us attending,  
Our hands and feet make strong.  
Thy faithful care bestowing,  
Till death, our ways attend;  
Then surely, heavenward going  
Our ways in heaven will end.

Paul Gerhardt, 1656.  
Tr. A. Ramsey, 1916.

---

*Alle Menschen muessen sterben.*

Man is but a transient being  
And a pilgrim here below,  
Like a shadow, swiftly fleeing,  
Like the days that come and go.  
He must pass through death's dark portal,  
To obtain that life immortal  
Which on yonder blissful shore  
Blooms in glory evermore.

So I willingly surrender  
To the Lord my fleeting breath,  
Knowing that His love so tender

Will allay all fear of death.  
In His wounds there is redemption  
And His death assures exemption  
From the punishment of sin  
And the sense of guilt within.

Jesus died upon the mountain,  
There His precious blood was spilt.  
Now an ever flowing fountain  
Cleanseth me from all my guilt.  
Hence my soul, endowed with pinions,  
Leaves for heaven's fair dominions,  
There in blissful joy to see  
God, the holy Trinity.

In those fair celestial regions  
All is life and peace and joy.  
Souls are there in countless legions,  
Happy in the Lord's employ.  
There bright Seraphim are dwelling,  
Who, in majesty excelling,  
Praise with heaven's mighty host  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost

There the patriarchs are living,  
There the prophets all abide.  
There, to Jesus homage giving,  
His apostles, too, reside.  
There the Lord's whole congregation  
Has a place of habitation.

There, to honor God, their King,  
All their hallelujahs sing.

O thou city of the sainted,  
Heavenly Jerusalem!  
How thy beauty is untainted,  
Sparkling like a precious gem!  
What soft music there is sounding,  
What sweet joys are there abounding!  
Night shall never follow day,  
But the sun shall reign for aye.

Ah, mine eyes have seen the glory  
Of that city fair and high,  
And mine ears have heard the story  
Of those mansions in the sky.  
Now the pure white robe of heaven  
And a crown to me are given,  
Now that light of joy is mine  
Which shall never cease to shine.

John G. Albinus, 1652.  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1918.

*Jerusalem, du hochgebaute Stadt.*

Jerusalem, thou city build on high,  
Would God I were in thee!  
My eager spirit hath so yearned to fly  
And bides no more with me.  
O'er hill and valley mounting

High, high o'er fields and wastes,  
O'er all, all worthless counting,  
Afair from earth it hastes.

O lovely day, O hour more lovely still,  
When wilt thou be revealed,  
When blissfully, my voice with joy athrill,  
My soul to God I yield,  
His pledge ordained, unfailing  
In His all-faithful hand,  
That haven waits my hailing  
In yonder Fatherland?

'Twill mount in e'en the twinkling of an eye  
Beyond the firmament,  
So wondrously, so gently laying by  
Its outworn earthly tent;  
Midst chariots ascending  
While bright angelic bands,  
Around it safe attending,  
Will bear it in their hands.

All hail to thee, O glorious city, now!  
Lift up thy gates of grace  
How long the time I yearned for thee, and how,  
Before I reached this place  
From yonder life of grieving,  
Of vanity and strife,  
From God at length receiving  
The heritage of life.

What folk is this now drawing near to me,  
This throng of worthies blest?  
These, one time of th'elect on earth, I see;  
The noblest crown and best  
Which Christ, with grace compelling,  
Sent me in other years  
When still far distant dwelling  
In mine own land of tears.

Lo, patriarchs renowned and prophets great  
And gathered saintly folk,  
Who while on earth endured the tyrant's hate  
And wore the Savior's yoke!  
But soaring now in freedom,  
With honor clothed upon,  
Midst radiant light I see them,  
And shining like the sun.

Then when at length I enter in a thrill  
That Paradise of God,  
My every sense with rapturous joy will fill,  
My mouth with praise and laud.  
Hosannas there ascending  
Make holy minstrelsy,  
With Alleluiahs blending  
For all eternity.

With instruments and with a joyful noise  
Are choirs unnumbered singing,  
Till by the sound and shoutings set apoise

The courts of joy are ringing.  
With ten ten-thousand voices  
And tens of thousands more,  
The heavenly host rejoices  
As ever from of yore.

Johann Matthaeus Meyfart, 1626.  
Tr. A. Ramsey, 1916.

---

*Unter Lilien jener Freuden.*

Midst the lilies blooming yonder  
Thou shalt wander,  
Oh my soul, and be at home.  
Rise, then, as on eagle-pinions—  
Thy dominions  
Are above where angels roam.

Guide my ship, Thou First-born Brother,  
To no other  
Than that peaceful haven where,  
Sheltered from all storms forever,  
I shall never  
Know of sorrow, sin or care.

Thou canst fill our mouths with laughter,  
And hereafter  
Make our tongues to sing Thy praise.  
Thou canst softly lead us mortals  
Through death's portals  
And above all evils raise.

For our sins and grievous errors  
All the terrors  
Of the cross Thou didst endure.  
Death, thy sting for aye has vanished,  
Thou art banished,  
And I rest from thee secure.

J. L. K. Allendorf, 1731.  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1917.

---

*Die wir uns allhier beisammen finden.*

Gathered here, we join our hands, O Savior,  
And upon Thy death unite,  
Ever to be true in our behavior  
Unto Thee, eternal Light.  
And as here Thy praises, Lord, are spoken,  
Enter Thou into our midst in token  
Of Thy love so pure and true,  
Saying, "Peace I give to you!"

C. R. Zinzendorf, 1754.  
Tr. H. Brueckner, 1916.

## Index

Translator's Preface .....	3
Exhortation to Prayer .....	6
The Lord's Prayer and Benediction .....	7
Morning and Evening Prayers .....	9
Prayer for Sunday Morning .....	11
Prayer for Sunday Evening .....	14
Prayer for Monday Morning .....	18
Prayer for Monday Evening .....	21
Prayer for Tuesday Morning .....	25
Prayer for Tuesday Evening .....	29
Prayer for Wednesday Morning .....	32
Prayer for Wednesday Evening .....	35
Prayer for Thursday Morning .....	40
Prayer for Thursday Evening .....	44
Prayer for Friday Morning .....	47
Prayer for Friday Evening .....	50
Prayer for Saturday Morning .....	52
Prayer for Saturday Evening .....	59
A Daily Prayer .....	64
At the Beginning of the Week's Work .....	65
At the Table .....	67
Grace before Meat .....	69
Grace after Meat .....	70
For Hearth and Home .....	73
Prayer of a Housefather .....	75
Prayer of a Housemother .....	76
Prayer of a Child .....	78
Prayer of a Youth or Maiden .....	79

Prayer of a Servant .....	80
Prayer of a School Child for the Holy Spirit .....	82
Prayer during a Thunder Storm .....	83
Thanksgiving after a Thunder Storm .....	85
Prayer on the Eve of a Journey .....	86
Prayer During a Journey .....	87
Prayer of Children for Their Father	
Engaged on a Journey .....	89
Thanksgiving after a Completed Journey .....	90
A Birthday Prayer .....	90
Prayer for Temporal Peace .....	92
A Prayer for School .....	94
Church Prayers .....	97
Prayer When Going to Church .....	99
Prayer for Sincere Repentance .....	100
Prayer for Forgiveness of Sins .....	102
Prayer for True Faith .....	104
Prayer before Confession .....	107
Thanksgiving after Absolution .....	108
A Morning Prayer for Communion Day .....	109
Prayer before Holy Communion .....	112
A Sigh when about to Receive the	
Sacred Body of Christ .....	114
A Sigh when about to Receive the	
Sacred Blood of Christ .....	115
Prayer after the Holy Supper .....	115
Prayer for a Pious Life .....	116
Prayer for Faithful Teachers and	
Preachers .....	117
Prayer for the Kingdom of God .....	119
Prayer for Missions .....	122
Prayer against False Doctrines and Sects .....	124
Prayer against the Enemies of Christ-	
endom .....	126

Prayers During Times of War.....	129
Prayer during War.....	131
Prayer for the Army and Navy.....	132
Prayer on the Eve of Battle.....	134
Prayer for the Wounded.....	135
Prayers for the Dying.....	136
Prayers for the Sick and Dying.....	139
Prayer of a Patient.....	141
Prayer for a Blessed End.....	142
Prayer in the Hour of Death.....	144
Prayer of the Bystanders for the Sick One.....	145
Prayer when the Patient has Died in the Lord .....	146
Hymns .....	149
Abide with grace unbounded.....	20
Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide.....	138
Awake, my heart, rejoicing.....	27
Awake, my soul, the rising sun.....	42
Be present at our table Lord.....	70
Come, my soul, again inquire.....	158
Commit thy ways and faring.....	161
Dayspring of Eternity.....	34
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.....	153
Gathered here, we join our hands, O Savior .....	171
God, who madest earth and heaven.....	13
Heavenly Father, bless this food.....	70
Jerusalem, thou city built on high.....	167
Jesus, bless what Thou hast given.....	70
Jesus, still lead on.....	160
Man is but a transient being.....	165
Midst the lilies blooming yonder.....	170
Now God be with us, for the night is closing .....	31

Now in Jesus' wounds reposing.....	46
Now under night's dark shadow.....	23
O Christ, who art the sun-lit day.....	16
One thing I above all others cherish.....	157
Out of the depths I cry to Thee.....	155
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.....	71
Shepherd never sleeping.....	37
Soul of mine to God awaking.....	62
Sunk is the sun's last beam of light.....	52
Take, then, my hands, O Father.....	159
The morning sun shines in the skies.....	49
The sun ascending.....	55
We thank Thee, Jesus Christ, our Lord.....	154
We thank Thee, Lord, for this our food.....	71
Ye baptized people one and all.....	151

#### Index of Translated Hymns

Ach bleib mit deiner Gnade.....	20
Alle Menschen mueszen sterben.....	165
Aus tiefer Not schrei ich zu dir.....	155
Befehl du deine Wege.....	161
Christe, du bist der helle Tag.....	16
Die gueldne Sonne .....	55
Die helle Sonn leucht jetzt herfuer.....	49
Die Nacht ist kommen, drin wir ruhen sollen .....	31
Die wir uns allhier beisammen finden.....	171
Du Volk, das du getauft bist.....	151
Eines wuenssch ich mir vor allem andern.....	157
Gott des Himmels und der Erden.....	13
Hinunter ist der Sonnenschein .....	52
Hirte deiner Schafe .....	37
Ich bin getauft auf deinen Namen.....	153
Jerusalem, du hochgebaute Stadt.....	167
Jesu, geh voran .....	160
Meine Seel, ermuntre dich.....	158

Morgenglanz der Ewigkeit .....	34
Nun ruhen alle Waelder .....	23
Nur in Jesu Blut und Wunden.....	46
So nimm denn meine Haende.....	159
Unter Lilien jener Freuden.....	170
Wach auf mein Herz, die Nacht ist hin....	42
Wach auf mein Herz, und singe.....	27
Werde munter, mein Gemuete .....	62
Wir danken dir, o Jesu Christ.....	154